

Message Text

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ACTION AF-07

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 IO-10 EA-06 CIAE-00 DODE-00

PM-03 H-01 INR-05 L-02 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 RSC-01

PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 /078 W

----- 065538

R 111230Z NOV 74

FM AMEMBASSY CAPE TOWN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4164

INFO AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY LISBON

USUN NEW YORK 901

AMCONSUL JOHANNESBURG

AMCONSUL DURBAN

AMCONSUL LOURENCO MARQUES

AMCONSUL LUANDA

C O N F I D E N T I A L CAPE TOWN 0752

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, AO

SUBJECT: LUSAKA MINICOM MEETING: DISCUSSION OF ANGOLA

DEPT ALSO FOR ALL AFRICAN DIPLOMATIC POSTS

LONDON FOR HAVERKAMP; PARIS FOR MELONE

FROM ASST SECY EASUM

1. MEETING OF SIX US AMBASSADORS, TWO CONSULS GENERAL AND MYSELF
HELD IN LUSAKA NOVEMBER 5-6 AGREED ON FOLLOWING STATEMENT OF CURRENT
SITUATION AND RECOMMENDED US POLICY STANCE REGARDING ANGOLA:

2. DISCUSSION OF ANGOLA REVEALED MAJOR UNCERTAINTIES REGARDING
FUTURE POLITICAL EVOLUTION IN AREA. SITUATION BECOMING INCREASINGLY
CONFUSED, WITH MOMENTUM TOWARD INDEPENDENCE COMPLICATED BY CONTINUING
RIVALRIES AND CONFRONTATIONS AMONG COMPETING POLITICAL FACTIONS.

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PORTUGUESE/ANGOLAN AUTHORITIES RECOGNIZE THESE COMPLEXITIES

AND ARE TRYING TO AVOID PRECIPITATE ACTIONS THAT WOULD ANTAGONIZE EITHER BLACK NATIONALISTS OR WHITES WHO ARE EXTREMELY WORRIED ABOUT THEIR STATUS.

3. AT SAME TIME, IT APPEARS CLEAR THAT LUANDA JUNTA AT LEAST FOR TIME BEING ACCEPTS NETO AS SOLE SPOKESMAN FOR MPLA AND MAY IN FACT HAVE IDEOLOGICAL LEANINGS TOWARD MPLA AS OPPOSED TO FNLA. INCREASINGLY IMPORTANT WILL BE ATTITUDE OF PORTUGUESE TROOPS WHO HAVE NO FURTHER STOMACH FOR FIGHTING AND WANT TO BE HOME FOR CHRISTMAS. EXTERNAL INTERESTS--INCLUDING THOSE OF NEIGHBORING ZAIRE, CONGO-BRAZZAVILLE AND ZAMBIA, AS WELL AS PORTUGAL, SOVIETS AND CHINESE--ARE ADDITIONAL COMPLICATING FACTORS.

4. CONSENSUS OF MEETING WAS THAT ANGOLA PRESENTS IMPORTANT THREAT FOR POLITICAL/MILITARY CONFLICT WHICH COULD AFFECT ADVERSELY SECURITY OF AREA.

5. IT WAS ALSO AGREED THAT, WHILE US IS NOT WITHOUT POLICY OPTIONS IN ANGOLA, WE SHOULD BE CAUTIOUS IN TRYING TO EXERCISE THOSE OPTIONS UNTIL PATTERN OF POLITICAL FORCES EMERGES MORE CLEARLY INTO FOCUS. CONFERENCE PARTICIPANTS SAW MERITS IN IN-HOUSE CONTINGENCY PLANNING REGARDING US, OAU OR UN RESPONSES IN EVENT POSSIBILITIES OF CONTINUED PEACEFUL EVOLUTION BLOCKED AND MAJOR VIOLENCE ENSUES.
HURD

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: INDEPENDENCE, MEETINGS, AMBASSADORS, FOREIGN POLICY POSITION
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 11 NOV 1974
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: cunninfx
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1974CAPET00752
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D740324-0835
From: CAPE TOWN
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1974/newtext/t19741155/aaaabueq.tel
Line Count: 87
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION AF
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: cunninfx
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 02 MAY 2002
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <02 MAY 2002 by rowelle0>; APPROVED <14 MAR 2003 by cunninfx>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: LUSAKA MINICOM MEETING: DISCUSSION OF ANGOLA DEPT ALSO FOR ALL AFRICAN DIPLOMATIC POSTS
TAGS: PFOR, AO
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005